Medical Stores Depots and the Principal Testing Centres in Madras such as the Bioloical Laboratory and Animal House;

(b) whether it is a fact that medicines are tested in the private drug testing laboratories while the Biological Laboratory and Animal House are fully equipped;

(b) if so the details thereof

(d) whether Government are aware of the fact that condoms, bandages and sutures are tested at private laboratories at the cost of Rs. 100/- per sample for want of a Tensil meter; and

(e) if so, what steps Government have taken to end wasteful expenditure in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) There is no prepetual conflict between the Medical Stores Depots of the Medical Stores Organisation and the Biological Laboratory, Madras. Showever, some problems exist between the Government Medical Store Depot, Madras and the Biological Laboratory, Madras. Government are trying to sort these out.

(b) In view of the importance of time factor in drug test as also due to the distance between the Bio-lab., Madras and the Medical Stores Depots, faciities at Government approved private testing laboratories are also availed of.

(c) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(d) Bandages and sutures are being tested for quality at the Bio-lab., Madras, but condoms are tested exclusively at the I.G.S. Lab as per terms and conditions of D.G.S.&D contracts.

(e) In view of this position, the question of wasteful expenditure does not arise.

Filling up of the post of Chairman of the Indian Council of Historical Research

1190. SHRI VALAMPURI JOHN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not filling up the post of the Chairman of the Indian Council of Historical Research and

(b) what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) The appointment of the Chairman of the Indian Council of Historical Research is under consideration of the Government.

Food for learning Project

1191. SHRI VALAMPURI JOHN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 'Food for Learning Project' to benefit lakhs of girls in rural areas has failed to take off for nearly three years now;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to reformulate the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) to (c) No specific 'Food for Learning Project' was taken up for implementation but Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, formerly Member, Planning Commission had sent a copy of the talk delivered by him in February, 1982 to the then Minister of State for Education whereni he had mooted the idea of such a projec t He suggested that a few pilot projects in suitable areas be considered for being taken up with 'World Food Programme' assistance.

This idea was examined and given shape in consultation with concerned Ministeries and 15 States and 3 Union Territories, where enrolment ratio was less than 70 per cent in res-